In regard to the Kulakkada Special School, I believe it is not an endowed institution but is a departmental institution conducted by the Government. I remember, it was the late Mr. Bhanu Bhanu Pandarattil who constructed the school building and granted the site for the school. All the same, it is a Government institution and the question of appointing a committee of Malayala Brahmins to manage a departmental school does not seem to me to be a feasible proposition. The Kumaranallur school was also a Government school some time ago. Now, it has become an aided institution. The local Malayala Brahmins have taken over the management of that school. If the Kulakkada school also would be taken over by the Malayala Brahmin community, and worked as an aided institution, then a committee of management could be appointed and they could conduct the school in a manner which would be acceptable to the community.

The member said that they were prepared to take it under private management.

DEWAN : If so, you may put forward definite proposals in the matter; and they will be considered by the Government.

Then, in regard to the sites of temples, tanks, *kavus*, etc., I have to say that each case has got to be examined on its merits. If any case is brought to the notice of Government in which, on examination, it is found that private property or lands attached to private temples are wrongly recorded as *poramboke*, the Government will have no objection to rectify the mistake.

8. Hardships caused by the Provisions of the Land Conservancy Regulation.

MR. NILAKANTAN NILAKANTAN NAMPUTIRI (*Member, Jenmies, Kottayam Division*) said that Sirkar lands and *porambokes* were well defined in the Land Conservancy Regulation. The object of that enactment was to prevent encroachments on Sirkar lands and *porambokes*. The survey and demarcation stones, incorrectly planted at the time of the last survey and settlement by ignorant and irresponsible surveyors, formed the basis of the present land records maintenance work. Survey and settlement work was rushed through in North Travancore with the result that mistakes and inaccuracies abounded there. Numerous canals, lanes, etc, were omitted to be recorded as *poramboke*. Lands subsequently acquired for public purposes were not separately shewn in the records. It was a common thing to see *porambokes* amidst registered holdings. Though it was with the object of removing those evils that the land records maintenance staff was created, even the new officers turned out to be a source of trouble to the public. The good intentions of the Government underlying the efficient arrangements made for land records maintenance work were being frustrated by the subordinates who failed to carry out the policy of Government. From the figures given of the volume of and receipts from the work of the land records maintenance staff, one would imagine that their duty was to enhance Government revenue and not to remove the evils the people were suffering from as a result of the errors committed at the last survey and settlement. It could not invariably be presumed, in the case of every encroachment now detected, that the present occupant was liable. There were several instances of cases in which encroachments had been found in areas measured and surveyed as correct by taluk surveyors. Such discrepancies were due to defective measurements. The *pakuthi* staff, the taluk surveyor, the land records maintenance staff and the P. W. D. had each a separate measurement, and the people were being penalised for the mistakes of those agencies. It was entirely forgotten that guilty intention which alone would justify punishment was absent in most encroachments. The *kudiyans* never wilfully committed the offence of squatting on a land admittedly *poramboke*. In the majority of encroachments discovered by the land records maintenance staff, there were trees and portions of structures 50 and 60 years old. No one ever seemed to enquire why such manifest mistakes should have happened. The fact was that those who had to supervise and those who discovered such encroachments were members of the same department. The idea of the Government was that, if they were the members of the same department, they would, in ascertaining the extent of *porambokes*, also be able to know the exact rights of the land-holder.

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At the time the survey was originally conducted, the demarcation stones on the sides of canals, backwaters, rivers, etc., were planted, under the specific orders of Government, at a distance of six feet into the interior from the edge of the water so that they might not be washed away. The intervening spaces, though really portions of registered holdings in respect of which assessment was being regularly paid and on which old trees stood, were now being treated as encroachments on *porambokes*. There were serious complaints in all taluks about such *poramboke* cases. On receipt of complaints from holders of lands bordering the banks of the Karamanai, the Neyyar and the Killiyar rivers, Government had ordered the registry of such lands subject to certain concessions. It was highly desirable that those orders should be made applicable to all parts of the State.

On account of the hurried manner in which settlement operations were completed in the Northern Division, many holdings belonging to and surrounding several Devaswoms were wrongly recorded as *poramboke*. Incidentally, the member wished to convey the thanks of the inhabitants of the Vaikam taluk for the sound policy enunciated in the Dewan's opening address on the very important question of Vaikam *satyagraha*. The land on which each Devaswom stood should, together with all its surroundings, such as roads and premises, be now surveyed carefully on the basis of the *ozhugu* of 1012 M. E. Till that survey was done and the boundaries were ascertained, roads and other premises round temples should not be treated as *porambokes*. Even if, after such a second survey, certain lands were declared as *porambokes*, such of the lands as might be found to be Devaswom *tanatu* should be registered in the name of the Devaswom concerned, whether it was a private or a Government Devaswom.

The land records maintenance staff not only treated portions of registered holdings as *porambokes* but fined innocent land-owners and imposed prohibitory assessment. There was, no doubt, a provision for appeals against such convictions. No inference could be drawn from the paucity of appeals if adequate regard was paid to the unspeakable hardship, loss, and expenditure of time and money involved in the successful prosecution of an appeal. A portion of the expenditure incurred on the survey of Government lands and *porambokes* by the land records maintenance staff was being realised from the people, whom it did not directly benefit.

There was, however, one direction in which the activities of the land records staff could be usefully employed. Several tanks, channels, and other irrigation works useful for agricultural purposes had by neglect become useless or had been occupied. The restoration of such irrigation works and the removal of encroachments on them demanded immediate attention, and, if done, would be useful to the people.

DEWAN: I believe some other members also intend to speak on this subject. I shall, however, reply at once to the particular points to which the member referred.

The member's charge against the Land Records Department is that old occupations are being treated as *porambokes*. All such cases ought to be brought to the notice of the Government and also to the notice of the responsible officers of the Department. If, on examination, it is found that they have been long under occupation, they will be registered in the names of the occupants. That is the procedure that is being adopted. The member referred to the old rules concerning the demarcation of the banks of certain rivers and their extension to the lands bordering the Karamanai and a few other rivers, and he wanted the same rule to be extended to all the rivers of the country. The principle is being extended; and I have no objection to further extend the principle in regard to all rivers similarly circumstanced.

Then, in regard to the lands attached to Devaswoms, I have nothing to add to the reply I have already given to Mr. Krishnaru Narayanaru.

While members attack the work of the Land Records Department and say that the Land Records Department should not examine certain classes of *porambokes*, they, at the same time, want the Land Records Department to examine certain other classes of *porambokes*. They complain that these *porambokes* are being narrowed down and want the Land Records Department to examine them, *e. g.*, tanks, rivers

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and canals, which become silted up or are converted into holdings. They urge that all such encroachments should be discovered and removed. That shows that the Department is necessary at least to examine some classes of *poramboke*s. In regard to the details of the work done by the department, all that the Government can do is to remove evils as they come to their notice.

9. Organisation of Industries connected with Ginger, Pepper and Cardamoms.

MR. ITTIYAVIRA CHUMMAR (*Member, Nominated*) said that Kerala had been famous for its pepper, ginger and cardamoms from the time of Solomon, and that, from the days of the Assyrians, foreign nations had been trading with the country in those articles. The country had not been making the best out of its natural resources in pepper, ginger, cardamom, copra and coir. The value of the imports into the State was gradually becoming higher than that of its exports. The progress of education coupled with the natural increase in population had created the problem of unemployment. The organisation of industries connected with the above articles would, in the agencies required for the collection of the raw produce, and for the manufacture of finished articles, their transport and distribution, provide work for the unemployed. The successful establishment of some of such factory industries would reduce the scramble for the loaves and fishes of office and remove the present political discontent for which economic conditions were mainly responsible. The member thought that the people were hitherto content to remain as hewers of wood and drawers of water willing to be exploited by others.

As labour was cheap in Travancore, as the products mentioned above were almost a monopoly with the State, as experts could be got down from places where such industries flourished and as the necessary capital and machinery would be forthcoming if Government actively supported the proposal, the member was confident that the industries suggested by him could be established on a successful basis. The Government which once maintained a pepper department need not, according to him, hesitate to embark on such a venture.

DEWAN : I agree with what the member says about the improvement and promotion of industries connected with ginger, pepper and cardamoms. But I am not equally clear as to what the Government should or could do in the matter. The member charges the Government with neglect in regard to this question. I do not think that that charge is well-founded. We have started a pepper farm. We have made arrangements to distribute better cardamom seedlings. We are making arrangements to start a ginger farm. Facilities are given for the acquisition of land for the cultivation of these products. The member complains that money and machinery are wanting. What is the sort of machinery that is wanted, he does not tell me. As for money, it is with a view to create facilities for finance for the promotion of such industries that the State-aided Bank is being started. If the Government are convinced that any pioneer industry deserves encouragement, they are prepared to encourage such industry. Only very recently, we have sanctioned a grant of Rs. 25,000 for a pioneer industry, *viz.*, the opening of a factory for the manufacture of desiccated cocoanut. I do not think that the proposal that Government should start companies for trading in these commodities is a sound one. Government cannot obviously do the work of merchants. I do not think that there are any other ways in which the Government can encourage these industries. If any such directions in which the Government can encourage these industries are brought to their notice, they are prepared to examine them.

The House adjourned for lunch at 1-50 P. M. to meet again at 3 o'clock.

10. Certain Needs of the Minachil Taluk.

MR. ITTIYAVIRA CHUMMAR (*Member, Nominated*) prayed for the establishment of a Taluk Office and a Magistrate's Court at Monipalli. The peculiar conditions of North Travancore, which were not well known either to the Government or the Legislative Council or the Assembly, emboldened him to make that

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